Threat given by NSCN (IM) to Meitei People

2486. SHRI DRUPAD BORGOHAIN: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the threat given by NSCN (IM) to the Meitei People for using NH 53 and 39;

(b) if so, what steps have been taken by Government to protect the Meitei's from the onslaught of NSCN(IM); and

(c) what other steps have been taken to eradicate the fall-outs of agreement with NSCN(IM) as regards to cease-fire without territorial limits?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) Instances of blockade and threats to users of National Highways No. 53 and 39 by militant organizations have been brought to the notice of the Government.

(b) Concerned State Governments have been sensitised from time to time to take all effective measures to deal with situation.

(c) Three words "without territorial limits" have been deleted from the ceasefire agreement with NSCN(IM).

Demonstration in support of Taliban

2487. SHRI C.M. IBRAHIM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether a protest demonstration was held by fundamentalist elements in Malegaon (Maharashtra) in support of the Talibans, resulting in police-firing and a large number of casualties; if so, the result of the inquiries made;

(b) whether similar protest demonstrations by such fundamentalist pro-Taliban elements were held in different parts of the country; if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by Government to tackle the pro-Taliban demonstrations in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) As per available information, objection by a State Reserve Police Force Policeman to some Urdu leaflets distributed by some persons after namaz at the local Jama Masjid, resulted in clashes between the crowds and Police on 26th October, 2001 in Malegaon, Maharashtra. The State Government has ordered a judicial inquiry under the Commissions of Inquiry Act, 1952 into the whole incidents.

(b) Anti-war demonstrations were also held in Kerala, Tamil Nadu and Bihar apart from Maharashtra. At the same time some eminent moderate Muslims have supported the efforts to root out terrorism.

(c) 'Public Order' and "Police" are State subjects as per the Constitution of India and hence maintenance of law and order as well as communal harmony are the primary concern of the State Governments. In so far as the Union Government are concerned, the Government have been providing assistance to the State Governments in a variety of ways to tackle the issues causing communal cleavage—both administrative and promotional—in a sustained manner *i.e.* assistance in improving their policing infrastructure, sending alert messages periodically, sharing intelligence with them, providing Central Para-military Forces including the composite Rapid Action Force on specific request and issuing guidelines from time to time to promote communal harmony.

The activities of all organisations having a bearing on maintenance of communal harmony are under constant watch of law enforcement agencies and requisite legal action is taken, wherever necessary.